

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
SS-15 AID-05 IGA-02 DODE-00 /072 W
----- 042116 /46

R 170949Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2743
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 4089

TAIPEI AND BANGKOK FOR AMBASSADORS
DEPT FOR ASST. SECRETARY HUMMEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, TW, BM
SUBJ: ROC INVOLVEMENT IN GOLDEN TRIANGLE

REF: TAIPEI 8288

1. I REALIZE THAT TAIPEI'S REFTEL WAS ONLY A SUMMARY OF CONVERSTATION,

AND THAT AMBASSADOR UNGER PROBABLY MADE PREMIER CHIANG FULLY AWARE OF
ALL THE SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED. HOWEVER, CHIANG'S "BOTTOM LINE" IN
REFTEL, THAT HE WOULD ACT PROMPTLY IF HE LEARNED OF ANY OF HIS
OFFICIALS

DEALING IN NARCOTICS, SUGGESTS THAT "HIS OFFICIALS" WOULD BE FREE TO
ENGAGE IN OTHER KINDS OF ACTIVITY IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE, AS LONG AS
THEY AVOIDED ACTUALLY DEALING IN NARCOTICS. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE
IF THE ROC GOT THE IDEA THAT IT HAS THE TACIT APPROVAL OF THE USG
FOR A NEW VENTURE IN BURMA, SUBJECT ONLY TO THIS CAVEAT.

2. A RENEWAL OF GRC CLANDESTINE INVOLVEMENT IN BURMA WOULD BE
VIEWED WITH RESENTMENT AND ALARM BY THE GUB. EVEN IF THE ROC ELEMENTS
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STAYED OUT OF THE SMUGGLING BUSINESS THEMSELVES, THEIR ACTIVITIES
WOULD INDIRECTLY BENEFIT OTHERS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN THE TRAFFIC.
FOR EXAMPLE, THEIR PRESENCE WOULD BE KNOWN TO THE PRC, AND WOULD
BE A FACTOR FURTHER DISPOSING THE PRC TOWARD SUPPORT OF THE BCP,
WHO ARE IN THE NARCOTICS BUSINESS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GUB WOULD
PROBABLY ASSUME THAT THE ROC WOULD NOT RESUME ITS ACTIVITIES IN

BURMA WITHOUT AT LEAST THE TACIT APPROVAL OF THE USG, AND THE
BURMESE OFFICIALS ON WHOSE COOPERATION THE SUCCESS OF OUR
NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN BURMA DEPENDS MIGHT BE AFFRONTED BY
WHAT THEY COULD REGARD AS DOUBLE DEALING. THE END RESULT COULD BE
A SERIOUS IMPAIRMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR PROGRAM IN BURMA.
OSBORN

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Message Attributes

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